

Khat Si", normally referred to in English as the Mendicant Buddhist Order, in Southern Vietnam. This order represents a unique combination of Theravada and Mahayana Buddhism. On the Second day of the Second month in the Year of the Horse (1954) during a time of political turmoil, Master Minh Dang Quang went missing and the Monks and Nuns of this order observe his disappearance each year as a religious ceremony.

According to the Bhikshu Buddhist Council, this year marks the 50th anniversary to celebrate the long-lasting work of Buddhist Master Minh Dang Quang and his founding of the Vietnamese Sakya Muni Dharma School of Buddhism. Although, Master Minh Dang Quang is not with us today, his followers continue their Master's teachings in Vietnam and all over the world.

I am pleased to know that in my City of San Jose, California, the Vietnamese Bhikshu Buddhist Council can freely meet, worship, and practice their faith without fear of persecution.

But that is not enough. We must demand that all Buddhists around the world, and others attempting to practice and worship their faith, are able to do so freely without fear of persecution.

We must continue passing legislation like the Vietnam Human Rights Act to promote freedom and democracy in Vietnam and House Resolution 427 that praises the courageous leadership of the Unified Buddhist Church of Vietnam and the urgent need for religious freedom and related human rights in Vietnam.

We cannot sit idly by as the Vietnamese government continues to oppress its people while hiding behind the veil of free trade. On this special day, I recognize the 50th Anniversary of the remembrance of Buddhist Master Minh Dang Quang and reassert my commitment to fighting for human rights in Vietnam.

IN LASTING MEMORY OF DR.  
DONALD L. MILLER

**HON. MIKE ROSS**

OF ARKANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, February 24, 2004*

Mr. ROSS. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this time to honor the life of Dr. Donald L. Miller. He lived a life devoted to the love, care and education of others and leaves a legacy carried on by the many lives he touched; either directly through personal relations or indirectly through his efforts to improve the quality of health care now available to Arkansans.

Dr. Miller was born in Little Rock, received his doctorate of medicine from the University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences, and spent nearly his entire life devoting energy and vision to the improvement of health care in Arkansas.

Dr. Miller was a member of numerous community, university, and professional committees and organizations including the American Medical Association, the American College of Physicians, and the First United Methodist Church. However, it was his work with Area Health Education Center programs that gained him the greatest notoriety. Dr. Miller served as an influential force in getting the program under way in the state and became Director of the Pine Bluff Area Health Education Center.

As Director, he earned the esteem of his fellow members of the American College of Physicians, who would write that "his greatest achievement has been the development of the most productive AHEC program in Arkansas." In 1995, they presented Dr. Miller with the Robert Shields Abernathy Award for Excellence in Internal Medicine in recognition of his achievements and sustained commitment to the program.

Under the vision and leadership of Dr. Miller, countless students as well as residents of internal medicine and family practice are more adequately trained in the various technical aspects of health care through the work of the Pine Bluff AHEC. As a result, many quality physicians have been attracted to the area where they now provide quality health care to the citizens of Southeast Arkansas. It is yet another indication of the broad impact Dr. Miller has had on his state, his community, and his fellow citizens.

My thoughts and prayers are with his wife, Peggy, and his daughters, Mollie, Sheila, and Karen. I extend my sincerest sympathies to them and can only hope that we find some solace in the lasting legacy of Donald Miller as his spirit lives on in each of us.

HONORING THE ACHIEVEMENTS OF  
LT. COL. ROBERT L. REINLIE

**HON. JEFF MILLER**

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, February 24, 2004*

Mr. MILLER of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Lt. Col. Robert L. Reinlie for his tireless fight for his fellow veterans.

Lt. Col. Reinlie and the late William O. "Sam" Schism engaged Col. George "Bud" Day, Medal of Honor recipient and former POW, as their attorney. By becoming a plaintiff in a 1996 lawsuit, Lt. Col. Reinlie challenged the United States government to honor healthcare commitments made to WWII/Korea era military retirees.

Lt. Col. Reinlie's extraordinary farsighted vision recognized the need for a plan to support his legal efforts. Lt. Col. Reinlie took it upon himself to begin organizing, what later became the Class Act Group.

With untiring and aggressive pursuit, Lt. Col. Reinlie's efforts were extended into a nationwide grass roots network that was instrumental in forging Congressional legislation favorable to military retirees. Lt. Col. Reinlie helped initiate this grass roots initiative through billboards, letter writing campaigns, demonstrations, phone and fax communication blitzes, meetings, marches, web sites, letters to editors, press releases, all geared to influencing Congressional attention. His dynamic and selfless leadership and commitment drove him to a presence in Class Act Group office spaces, even when extensive surgery was imminent and during extended rehabilitation.

His tireless dedication served as a contributing and encouraging factor for his attorney, Col. Day, and the legal fight to the United States Supreme Court. This fight led by Lt. Col. Reinlie was a major contributing factor to the military retiree medical benefit now referred to as TRICARE for Life and The Senior Pharmacy Program. The WWII/Korea era mili-

tary retiree fight is not over and Lt. Col. Reinlie, at the young age of 82, is still in the battle to honor his fellow veterans.

Mr. Speaker, I, on behalf of the United States Congress, salute Lt. Col. Reinlie. With the encouragement and significant contribution from his wife Marilyn, he reflects a great credit upon himself, our Nation, and the courage of soldiers that gave us the freedom we enjoy today. I offer my sincere thanks for all that he has done for Northwest Florida and this great Nation.

TRIBUTE TO JOE ESPINOZA

**HON. SCOTT MCINNIS**

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, February 24, 2004*

Mr. MCINNIS. Mr. Speaker, it is with profound sadness that I rise before you today to pay tribute to the life and memory of Joe Espinoza, who passed away recently at the age of ninety-two. Joe embodied the ideals of patriotism, integrity and love of family that we, as Americans, have come to expect from our public servants. As his family mourns the loss, I believe it is appropriate to remember Joe and pay tribute to his contributions to his city, state and country.

Joe began his service to this nation as a Marine in World War II, and following an honorable discharge, returned to Colorado where he and his wife, Melissa, opened their family restaurant and bar, El Patio. He entered a life of public service in 1978 when he was elected Mayor of San Luis, an office he held for three terms. During his tenure, Joe enjoyed the distinction of being the town's oldest mayor. He is survived by two sons, Josito and Abby; four daughters, Theresa, Margaret, Joetta, and Claudine; twenty-two grandchildren, thirty-one great-grandchildren, and one great-great grandchild.

Mr. Speaker, it is an honor to rise before this body of Congress and this nation to pay tribute to the memory of Joe Espinoza. He was a beloved family man and public servant who also made numerous contributions to his community. The San Luis community and the State of Colorado will truly miss Joe, and my thoughts go out to his family during this difficult time of bereavement.

CHARLES ADONIZIO, JR. HONORED  
POSTHUMOUSLY BY PITTSBURGH  
SUNDAY DISPATCH

**HON. PAUL E. KANJORSKI**

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, February 24, 2004*

Mr. KANJORSKI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to draw the attention of my colleagues in the U.S. House of Representatives to the life of my very good friend, the late Charles "Cugsy" Adonizio. On Sunday, February 8, 2004, the Pittsburgh Sunday Dispatch honored his life with the Joseph Saporito Award for Lifetime of Service to Greater Pittston. A loving husband to Helen for 57 years and the father of six children, Charles Adonizio, Jr. passed away last October at the age of 88 years old.

The editor of the Sunday Dispatch, Ed Ackerman, recently wrote an excellent story outlining the life of this community-spirited man

who inspired so many in the Greater Pittston area of Northeastern Pennsylvania. I would like to reprint that article below.

JOSEPH SAPORITO LIFETIME OF SERVICE  
AWARD

If you knew "Cugsy" Adonizio you know he always cried when he was happy. He'd tell a funny story and inevitably his laughter turned to tears.

Such paradox tells the story of Cugsy's life. He was successful, yet humble, strict yet compassionate, powerful yet gentle.

In his later years, as he battled a heart condition, Cugsy became weak yet strong. He needed the assistance of a cane, but still walked a couple of miles every day. And while walking was difficult for him, swinging a golf club was not. He scored a hole-in-one at the age of 81.

And the paradox continues since his death on October 26 at 88 years old. "In a funny way," his wife Helen says, "he's more alive than ever. I talk to him all the time and, in his own way, I believe he answers me."

Charles Adonizio Jr.—"Cugsy" to most, just "Cugs" to his wife of 57 years—is today honored posthumously with the Joseph Saporito Award for Lifetime of Service to Greater Pittston.

He received a similar honor in 1979 when he was named Man of the Year by St. Michael's School for Boys. It was a fitting tribute for a man who dedicated a good part of his life to helping troubled youth.

As Chief Juvenile Probation Officer for Luzerne County from 1962 until his retirement in 1982, Cugsy earned a reputation as a compassionate disciplinarian. He was more concerned with rehabilitation than punishment. He saw a system that needed fixing and he set about to fix it.

Cugsy graduated from Pittston High School (later returning as school director) and Duquesne University, who since placed his name on their Who's Who list.

He served in the U.S. Navy during World War II and was a full lieutenant at the time of his discharge. He spent 33 months on active duty in the Pacific.

He organized the Wyoming Valley Naval Reserve and became its first commanding officer. He retired in 1955 as a Lieutenant Commander.

He was a Past Exalted Ruler of the Pittston Elks, Fourth Degree and Life Member of the Knights of Columbus, Past Commander of Fort Pittston Post V.F.W., and first President of the Our Lady of Mount Carmel Holy Name Society.

He and Helen are parents of six children: Judy Yanchek, Gloria Blandina, the late Mary Christine Thompson, Charles III, Jane Adonizio Lukas, and Dr. Patrick.

SIKHS PROTEST INDIAN REPUBLIC  
DAY

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 24, 2004

Mr. TOWNS. Mr. Speaker, on January 26, India celebrated its Republic Day, the anniversary of the adoption of its Constitution. Now if it would only live by that constitution.

The Council of Khalistan organized a successful protest outside the Indian Embassy here in Washington. While India celebrated, minorities are being killed. India has murdered over 250,000 Sikhs since 1984, over 300,000 Christians in Nagaland, over 85,000 Kashmiri Muslims, and tens of thousands of other mi-

norities. There are tens of thousands of political prisoners, according to Amnesty International. These include over 52,000 Sikhs, a study from the Movement Against State Repression showed. That doesn't sound like a republic to me.

People came to the protest from all over the East Coast. They chanted slogans like "Khalistan Zindabad," "Long live Khalistan," and many others. They educated the public about the repression of minorities in India while the attendees at the Ambassador's party celebrated India's freedom.

We salute India's freedom, but it is time that these benefits extended to everyone within its borders, not just the Brahmin elites and their friends. It is time for the repression to end and for the minorities to live in freedom too.

Mr. Speaker, this kind of repression is unacceptable in any country, but especially in one that proclaims itself democratic.

Perhaps they feel that this repression is necessary to hold the country together, since India is not a single nation but many nations thrown together under one banner, much like the Soviet Union or the Austro-Hungarian Empire. History shows that such nations cannot long survive.

Now I know you're wondering what America can do to help. We should uphold and support the principle of self-determination for all people. The right to self-determination is the cornerstone of democracy.

The time has come to end our aid to India so that all the people there can enjoy the glow of freedom. The best way to secure the blessings of liberty for everyone within India's artificial borders is to stop aiding the tyrants who oppress them with U.S. taxpayer dollars. The other thing that we must do, Mr. Speaker, perhaps equally important, is to take a stand for the essential right of self-determination by putting this Congress on record in support of a free and fair plebiscite with international monitoring on the question of independence for all the minority nations of the subcontinent. This will ensure them the opportunity to enjoy the full rights of free people.

Mr. Speaker, the Council of Khalistan issued an outstanding press release on its Republic Day protest. I would like to insert it into the RECORD at this time for the information of my colleagues and the public.

COUNCIL OF KHALISTAN,  
Washington, DC, January 26, 2004.

SIKHS PROTEST INDIAN GENOCIDE ON REPUBLIC  
DAY

DEMAND FREEDOM FOR SIKH NATION OF  
KHALISTAN. NO DEMOCRACY FOR SIKHS,  
CHRISTIANS, MUSLIMS, OTHERS

Sikhs from around the East Coast demonstrated in Washington, D.C. today to protest the ongoing genocide against the Sikh Nation and other minorities by the Hindu fundamentalist, terrorist Government of India. They raised slogans of "Khalistan Zindabad", "India out of Khalistan," "2-4-6-8, India is a Fascist state," and other slogans.

India's Republic Day celebrates the day in 1950 when India adopted its Constitution. But what India calls "Republic Day" is Genocide Day for the minority peoples and nations of South Asia. The Indian government has murdered over 250,000 Sikhs since 1984, more than 300,000 Christians since 1948, over 85,000 Muslims in Kashmir since 1988, and tens of thousands of Tamils, Assamese, Manipuris, Dalits, and others. The Indian Supreme Court called the Indian government's mur-

ders of Sikhs "worse than a genocide." According to a study by the Movement Against State Repression, 52,268 Sikhs are being held in illegal detention as political prisoners without charge or trial. Some of them have been held since 1984!

"India is not a democracy for Sikhs, Muslims, Christians, and other minorities," said Dr. Gurmit Singh Aulakh, President of the Council of Khalistan, which leads the Sikh Nation's struggle for independence. "The rights guaranteed in the Indian constitution are not enjoyed by non-Hindus," he said. "While India celebrates, Sikhs and others are dying," he said. "Is that something to celebrate?"

Christian missionary Joseph Cooper was expelled from India after a mob of militant Hindu nationalists allied with the Rashtriya Swayamsewak Sangh (RSS), a pro-Fascist organization that is the parent organization of the ruling BJP, beat him so severely he had to spend a week in the hospital. In 2002, 2,000 to 5,000 Muslims were attacked in Gujarat while police were ordered to stand aside, reminiscent of the 1984 Delhi massacres of Sikhs. Indian newspapers reported that the government planned the Gujarat massacre in advance.

Indian police arrested human-rights activist Jaswant Singh Khalsa after he exposed their policy of mass cremation of Sikhs, in which over 50,000 Sikhs have been arrested, tortured, and murdered, then their bodies were declared unidentified and secretly cremated. He was murdered in police custody. His body was not given to his family. The police never released the body of former Jathedar of the Akal Takht Gurdev Singh Kaunke after SSP Swaran Singh Ghotna murdered him. Ghotna has never been brought to trial for the Jathedar Kaunke murder. No one has been brought to justice for the kidnapping and murder of Jaswant Singh Khalsa.

"It is good that American pressure has forced India and Pakistan to talk about Kashmir," said Dr. Aulakh. "But the atrocities still continue. Khalistan, Kashmir, and all the nations of South Asia have the right to self-determination," he said. "In a democracy, you cannot rule the people against their will." On October 7, 1987, the Sikh Nation declared its independence from India, naming its new country Khalistan. On December 5, Dr. Aulakh met President Bush. "I am aware of the Sikh and Kashmiri problem," President Bush told him.

History shows that multinational states such as India are doomed to failure. Countries like Austria-Hungary, India's longtime friend the Soviet Union, Yugoslavia, Czechoslovakia, and others prove this point. India is not one country; it is a polyglot like those countries, thrown together for the convenience of the British colonialists. It is doomed to break up as they did. India is ruled by Hindu theocrats whose agenda is "Hindu, Hindi, Hindutva, Hindu Rashtra," or total Hindu domination of every facet of Indian life. An Indian Cabinet minister said that everyone who lives in India must be a Hindu or subservient to Hindus.

Sikhs ruled Punjab until 1849 when the British conquered the subcontinent. Sikhs were equal partners during the transfer of power from the British. The Muslim leader Jinnah got Pakistan, the Hindu leaders got India, but the Sikh leadership was fooled by the Hindu leadership promising that Sikhs would have "the glow of freedom" in North-west India. The Sikhs took their share with India on that promise.

"Democracies don't commit genocide," Dr. Aulakh said. "Only in a free and sovereign Khalistan will the Sikh Nation prosper. In a democracy, the right to self-determination is the sine qua non and India should allow a